

JORDAN TIMES

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Judge Sirica critically ill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R). — Judge John Sirica who presided over the Watergate trials was still critically ill in hospital today but his doctor said he was pleased at his overall condition considering the severity of his heart attack.

The 71-year-old judge developed a minor lung congestion problem overnight but this was responding to treatment, a spokesman at the George Washington University Hospital said.

Judge Sirica collapsed yesterday as he was speaking at a luncheon meeting of law graduates.

Special security measures in force as Franjeh goes to Damascus

BEIRUT, Feb. 6 (Agencies). — travellers to avoid the Beirut-Strict new measures will go in force here while President Suleiman Franjeh travels to Damascus Saturday to set the seal on a Syrian-engineered peace formula that offers Lebanon its best hope yet of ending its 10-month-old civil war.

The eight-man military committee supervising Lebanon's ceasefire, worried that militants might create trouble, said that all parties to the ceasefire agreement had been asked to send armed patrols into the streets with orders to shoot any troublemakers.

The committee also asked

travellers to avoid the Beirut-Tripoli highway, where scattered incidents, including some kidnappings, have taken place in the past few days.

Informed sources here said that the ceasefire committee plans to set up mobile forces to maintain order at "sensitive points." The committee also studied the possibility of a military court to inflict severe penalties on those guilty of kidnapping, murder, looting or theft.

The radio of the right-wing Phalangists meanwhile announced the creation of a special 1,000-man force to police areas under the control of the Phalangists and their allies in the National Liberal Party headed by Interior Minister Camille Chamoun.

President Franjeh's visit crowns more than two weeks of laborious Syrian mediation that seems to have achieved its goal — a compromise solution accepted by all major parties to the conflict.

No such agreement has been formally disclosed. But President Franjeh would hardly go

((Continued on back page))

Smith warns of new guerrilla activities against Rhodesians

SALISBURY, Feb. 6, (AFP). — Rhodesia is facing the most serious African nationalist guerrilla incursion in the history of its three-year war against terrorism, Prime Minister Ian Smith said in a broadcast here tonight.

Mr Smith said the new threat would force wider call-up of civilian defence force men and warned that guerrilla attacks could be expected in new areas.

Noting the recent comparative lull in the guerrilla offensive, Mr Smith went on: "On the evidence before us, I believe that this will be the most serious incursion that we have experienced. However, on the credit side our security forces are stronger today than they have ever been."

The new incursions had resulted in 14 guerrillas being killed in the past two weeks for the loss of one Rhodesian soldier, he said.

On the increased army call-up, Mr Smith said: "Every effort will be made to spread the load as widely and as evenly as possible but inevitably there will be some inconvenience, hardship and interruption of family life and business and professional activities."

Mr Smith also warned that

Waldheim arrives for Fiji visit

SUVA, Feb. 6 (R). — Fijian warriors carrying clubs escorted United Nations Secretary-General Dr. Kurt Waldheim when he arrived in Fiji tonight, a traditional welcome normally reserved for high chiefs.

Dr. Waldheim is scheduled to hold talks with the Fiji Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, and visit the University of the South Pacific during his two-day stay here.

Rabin says U. S. visit will ensure a strong military

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (R). — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said today the United States had promised Israel enough weapons to ensure a real strengthening of its armed forces.

Talking to reporters on his return from an official visit to America, Mr. Rabin said Israel and the U.S. had also agreed on political aims which should go far beyond what was achieved in last September's interim agreement with Egypt.

The U.S. "fully agrees with us that there can be no third state between Israel and Jordan," he declared.

Israel did not get all the arms it requested, "but we will receive sufficient types and amounts to ensure a serious strengthening of our armed forces," Mr. Rabin said.

"I am very satisfied on the degree of understanding reached between us on the arms supplies," he said.

Israel would have no problem financing its arms purchases, he said.

Immediately after leaving the airport, Mr. Rabin held an un-

scheduled meeting with Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and Defence Minister Peres in the Prime Minister's Tel Aviv office.

A spokesman for Mr. Rabin would say only that the Prime Minister reviewed some of the results of his U.S. visit.

Earlier, Prime Minister Rabin had said he has failed to persuade the United States to restore cuts in military aid to Israel.

In a related development, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon will visit the United States and Latin America next month, Israeli Foreign Ministry sources said today.

((Continued on back page))



GUATEMALA SCENE. — An elderly woman and several children are a picture of despair as they sit on a Guatemala City street Friday after the city was ripped apart by a series of earthquakes Wednesday. (AP wirephoto).

Guatemala quake death toll hits 6,000

GUATEMALA CITY, Feb. 6 (R). — Thousands of homeless families who survived this week's devastating earthquake camped out in the streets of Guatemala city today as firemen dug for corpses expected to take the death toll to as high as 6,000.

Large-scale emergency aid started arriving today to beat the threat of hunger and disease in the capital, where many districts have been without water and electricity for 48 hours.

Occasional strong tremours were felt across the densely populated highland band hit by Wednesday's earthquake.

Many families chose to sleep out in the open rather than risk being trapped by a new quake.

The national observatory has counted more than 300 tremours since the big quake destroyed or damaged half the buildings in this city of 900,000.

Mr. Voss Rosene, an official of the Geneva-based U.N. Disaster Relief Office, told reporters that on the basis of the latest survey, the relief agency now believed 5,200 people had died in mountain towns and villages north of here and another 800 in Guatemala City.

A spokesman for the National Emergency Council said the government was estimating 3,500 dead, but added that the figure could rise.

The U.S. Air Force flew in tents, medicine and a generator from the nearby Panama Canal Zone.

A 100-bed field hospital was

brought in a major airlift by 16 large transport planes direct from U.S. air bases, together with a team of 25 military doctors, according to an American spokesman.

The Emergency Council spokesman said ((Continued on back page))

The town of Joyabaj, 90 kilometres north of here, was under two metres of rubble and hardly a building was intact. Firemen found 500 corpses as they dug through the debris.

The people of Joyabaj yesterday had less than 150 milligrams of pure water each to cook the emergency grain being handed out by U.S. and Canadian volunteers.

A spokesman for the Guatemala National Emergency Council said the army was distributing food to almost half a million people who lost their belongings in the earthquake.

In the capital officials said they feared epidemics in slum districts.

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Front counters Franco claim to allegiance of Saharans

ALGERIA, Feb. 6 (R). — The Polisario Front today published a list of 7,000 members of the Saharan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which had been created by Spain in 1967.

The arguments over the Jemaa have arisen because the agreement signed in Madrid on November 14, by which Spain agreed to hand its colony over to a Moroccan-Mauritanian administration by the end of this month, says in its third clause: "The opinion of the Saharan population, as expressed through the Jemaa, will be respected."

In Madrid, meanwhile, United Nations special envoy Olaf Rydbeck held a second round of talks with the Spanish government on the Western Sahara crisis before flying to the Sahara tomorrow.

Mr. Rydbeck, Swedish Ambassador to the U.N., met government officials from the office of Prime Minister Carlos Arias Navarro but was not expected to see the Premier who was chairing a cabinet meeting, diplomatic sources said.

Spain plans to withdraw remaining administrative officials from the Sahara on February 28, they said.

Mr. Rydbeck, who flies to the Saharan capital of El Aaiun tomorrow, has said his report on the crisis would be based on U.N. resolutions upholding the principle of self-determination in the desert territory.

Other opposition groups, including the Somali-Djibouti front, also expected to be involved in the talks.

Liberal-Democrats have been questioning the French position and commending the Royal

ambassador Abdurrahman Fofana told a press conference he hoped the council would discuss his complaint no later tomorrow.

He referred to the council's reference to an alleged incident on the French troops' busload of 28 Frenchmen who had been abducted by a group of Somali guerrillas. One child and another is still

his press conference envoy said the attack on Loyada was a diversionary move. Negotiations were ongoing place between France and the

sets Feb. 21 in Riyadh

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Realistic aid relationships

The international economic scene over the past two years has been dominated by the rising crescendo of talk about bringing about a new world economic order where the dominance of the handful of industrialised western nations is not so severe. But there has been something of a play within the play, which is the uneasy relationship between the oil-producing states of OPEC and the rest of the developing poor nations of the world.

Prior to late 1973, the OPEC states were thrown in with the other developing nations of the world. After the dramatic oil price increases of fall 1973, the oil producers suddenly found themselves with tens of billions of dollars in income, and their status as poor developing states came in for some revision.

At the meetings in Manila this week of the Group of 77 (the world's developing states), the oil producers have come under some undisguised fire about their aid policies. It is a sticky question.

The relationship between the OPEC nations and the rest of the Third World is suddenly complicated by the significant revenues enjoyed by the oil producers. It was their decision to raise the price of oil which finally prompted the industrialised states to accept the call to join an international economic dialogue. This is now set to meet again in Paris next week.

The OPEC states could easily fall into the trap of turning into a class of rentier nations, living off their oil revenues and not building the industrial and commercial economic base that will transform their economies into productive ones. They appreciate this danger, and are using their tremendous income to build the infrastructures in their countries that will form the basis of post-oil-economies industrial societies.

A fact that the OPEC states should appreciate is that they cannot do the impossible and build industrial societies and economies overnight. And the other Third World nations must similarly appreciate that the OPEC states cannot simply distribute their excess revenues in a great philanthropic spree. The happy medium is for the OPEC nations to draw upon the expertise, experience and manpower resources of the Third World bloc to create the short-term economic depth that will guarantee long-term economic viability.

This means that the OPEC states can enter into development aid programmes whose fruits can filter back to strengthen the OPEC states' own economies. Examples include financial aid for fertiliser plants in South Asia whose production would revert on favourable terms to facilitate the development of basic agricultural industries in the OPEC states. This kind of cooperation-aid would help develop the economic depth that an oil producer such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar or Libya simply could not build by itself, or not fast enough. This arrangement would also provide the kind and quantity of aid that would simultaneously prod development schemes in the non-oil-producing Third World states, and would provide a blueprint for realistic relationships between the OPEC states and their Third World colleagues.

1975 balance of payments registers surplus

AMMAN. — Jordan's balance of payments in 1975 registered a surplus of 84 per cent as compared to 1974. This was due to increased income of foreign currencies a spokesman of the Central Bank of Jordan said Friday.

The spokesman said that Jordan's income of foreign currencies in 1975 amounted to about J.D. 294 million as against J.D. 160 million in 1974.

This increase has led to the growth of reserve currencies in the Kingdom and consequently to the realisation of a surplus in the balance of payments.

5-Year Plan to boost industry and metallurgy

AMMAN. — A prime target of the 5-year Development Plan is to increase the income of the industrial and metallurgical sector from J.D. 46 million in 1975 to J.D. 144 million in 1980, at an average annual growth rate of 26 per cent.

The increase will come from expanding phosphate production, petrol and cement by-products and setting up a group of metallurgical and other new industries, including phos-

The spokesman ascribed the increase to the recent steps taken by the Central Bank to ease controls over the flow of currency.

Art exhibit opens Monday

AMMAN. (JT). — A four day art exhibit will take place Monday at Goethe Institute.

The Director of the Department of Culture and Arts Mr. Talal Hikmat will open the exhibit of the works of artist Ruth Lipentz.



AFTER THE FIGHT. — Uniformed and plainclothes Italian policemen stand guard outside the wooded grounds of the Egyptian embassy in Rome after two unidentified intruders engaged in a brief shootout with guards Friday morning. (AP wirephoto)

Police surprise gunmen on Egyptian Embassy grounds

ROME, Feb. 6, (R). — Two gunmen who opened fire with automatic weapons in the grounds of the Egyptian Embassy here appeared today to have evaded a police cordon and escaped.

The unidentified gunmen were surprised lurking in the gardens of the embassy yesterday by armed police guards.

When challenged they ran and the guards fired warning shots. The gunmen covered their escape with bursts of automatic fire. Police said no one was hurt in the exchange.

Within minutes police with tracker dogs and searchlights had ringed the area.

A thorough search was made of the grounds lasting several hours but the gunmen were not found.

A police official said the gunmen must have escaped in the dark through a wooded park backing on to the embassy.

Police admitted they were puzzled by the incident, whether it was a politically motivated attack or simply criminal.

Corsica guerrillas blast French post

AJACCIO, Corsica, Feb. 6 (AFP). — Two masked men armed with a sub-machine-gun and a sawed-off shotgun today blew up a French naval radio monitoring station at La Parata military airfield near here.

The two men, claiming to belong to the Corsican Peasant Liberation Front (FPCL) knocked out the lone sailor on duty at the monitoring station and placed plastic explosive charges weighing an estimated two kilos which entirely destroyed the station's radio equipment.

Prominent Israeli says state has become an American satellite

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (R). — One of Israel's top scientists and defence advisers today accused Israeli decision-makers of "spineless leadership" and said the country was fast becoming a dependency of the United States.

In a blistering attack on the government in the respected independent newspaper Haaretz Professor Yuval Ne'eman, former Senior Adviser to Defence Minister Shimon Peres, also described last September's interim peace agreement with Egypt as a fraud.

The present trend could only bring Israel into contempt among Americans, Professor Ne'eman said. His attack was published a few hours before Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was due to return from talks with U.S. leaders in Washington.

Israel must immediately start taking steps to limit its dependence on the United States, he said. "Our relations today are those of a satellite. We have lost the image of a self-respecting, independent state with national interests of our own."

He did not believe Israel could count on massive American aid on the 1974 scale in the years ahead because of the economic difficulties facing Americans and the public atmosphere prevailing there.

Professor Ne'eman said he was not prepared to be made a scapegoat in the row involving accusations by a "senior Israel source" in Washington — said here to be the Prime Minister — that the Israeli Defence Ministry had exaggerated demands for military aid from the U.S.

The "shopping list" which the "senior source" complained of was prepared when Professor Ne'eman was top adviser to the ministry.

Higher coun for agricult

AMMAN. (JT). — council will be for coordinate agriculture and development.

The council's task within the framework year development council will also pr lines for farmers o methods for utilisin

The council will be the best means for Jordan's agriculture abroad and supervisi lity of the product

J.U. plans experimenta agricultural

AMMAN. (JT). — of Agriculture at th of Jordan is formu for an agricultural tal station in the Jo

The university re Jordan Valley Com provide it with e plan and design t network which th hopes to build at mental station.

Swiss delegation arri for fact-finding visit

AMMAN. — A Swiss parliamentary delegation arrived here from Cairo Friday on a three-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Speaker of the Upper House Mr Bahjat Talhouni.

During its stay, the nine-member delegation will be received in audience by the King, and with the Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and the Central Bank of Said Nabulsi.

The delegation M. Reni Filbert, Swiss Federal House representatives from Democratic Party.

The delegation's dan is part of a tour of several Ara After their arriva group called on M in his office at the ment building, whe cussed the cordia between Jordan an land.

The meeting was by Senators Abd Rifai and Ahmed Tu The Swiss in Amman gave a Friday evening in the visiting delegati

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France comes to grips with IEA floor price for oil

PARIS, Feb. 6 (AFP). — President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing Friday chaired a meeting of senior cabinet ministers on energy policy which examined France's attitude towards the idea of a minimum safeguard price (MSP) for crude oil adopted by other industrial countries.

The ministers, including Premier Jacques Chirac, Foreign Minister Jean Sauvagnargues and Finance Minister Jean-Pierre Fourcade, centred their talks on the MSP, reliable sources said.

But official spokesmen declined to give any details of the attitude likely to be adopted by the government. A further meeting of ministers concerned is scheduled for next April when guidelines for future policy on nuclear energy and oil and natural gas supplies are to be

hammered out, informed sources said.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) last week adopted a long term energy cooperation programme which set an MSP of seven dollars per barrel of imported crude to protect investment in alternative sources of energy.

The idea of a floor price or MSP was initially put forward by the United States which also took the initiative to the setting up of the 18-nation IEA.

France, which has so far followed an independent policy in the field of energy, refused to join the IEA when it was established in November 1974, in order to preserve its relations with the oil-producing countries.

The floor price concept is now also being taken up inside the European Economic Community (EEC), and the French government will thus have to take a stand on it. France's eight EEC partners are all members of the IEA.

Observers consider that France began to draw closer to the other leading Western countries in the field of energy last November when six leading economic powers including the United States and Japan met at summit level at Rambouillet near Paris to discuss ways and means to bring the world out of recession and crisis.

The final statement issued by the six participants said that "we are determined to secure for our countries the energy sources needed for their growth. Our common interests require that we continue to cooperate in order to reduce our dependence on imported energy through conservation and the development of alternative sources."

New car sales drop in Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 5 (AFP). — New car sales in Japan fell at an annual rate of more than 15 per cent in January after surging for many months, the Automobile Dealers' Association reported today.

Registration of new cars totaled 177,413 units, down 15.3 per cent from January 1975. Compared with December, the figure was down 42.3 per cent the report said.

The slump was due to a reactionary fall from a rush of sales before the full enforcement in December of strict emission controls that made it mandatory to produce only costlier low-pollution cars.

Similar declines are predicted in some months to come, with especially private cars probably well into minus territory, dealers said.



LIGHT, TIGHT BIKE. — A remarkable new portable bicycle, small enough to fit into the boot of a mini car, has been introduced by a British design and development company.

TUC gives ultimatum on U.K. unemployment

LONDON, Feb. 6 (AFP). — said, the TUC would have to reconsider its cooperation with the government's economic policy.

The TUC might be more demanding about pay rises, which at the moment are limited to six pounds a week per year, Mr Murray said.

Trade unions, he said, planned to repeat their demand that the British government applies import restrictions in order to protect British jobs.

Unemployment, he told foreign journalists, should be brought down from its present level of nearly 1.5 million to about 600,000 by mid-1978.

If there was no action, he

1975 bond issues total \$12.5 billion

Brussels, Feb. 6 (AFP). — International bond issues—Euro-currency and ordinary issues—rose fivefold in 1975 to 12,500 million dollars, the European Economic Community (EEC) Banking Federation said today.

The sharp increase was due to huge financing requirements stemming from the economic crisis. On the Euro-currency market issues totalled 5,814 million dollars against 1,400 million in 1974, as governments and companies sought cash and interest rates steadily declined.

Conventional international issues came to 6,750 million dollars against previous 913 million dollars. This was basically the result of massive activity on the capital market in

the United States by international organisations and Canadian investors.

On the European market the dollar was used for 46.3 per cent of issues against 60 per cent in 1974, followed by the mark at 27.4 per cent and the Canadian dollar at 8.8 per cent.

European borrowers accounted for 50 per cent of the issues, half EEC companies and half by those of other European nations.

Iran's oil exports drop 12 per cent in 1975

TEHERAN, Feb. 6 (AFP). — made in Iran last year, Iran's crude oil exports dropped by 12.3 per cent last year to 248.6 million tons, the President of the Iranian National Oil Company (INOC) said today.

INOC President Manusher Eghbal said the country's total output of crude was down by 11.2 per cent to 267.8 million tons during the same period.

He said there had been a substantial decline in purchases of crude by the consortium of 14 foreign oil companies which signed an agreement with the Iranian government in 1973.

But INOC's direct exports rose by 27.7 per cent last year over the 1974 level, he added.

Mr. Eghbal said six new oil and natural gas strikes had been

Yugoslavs get £93m Iraqi dam contract

BAGHDAD, Feb. 6 (R). — Iraq has signed a 55 million dinar (93 million sterling) contract with a Yugoslav firm to build a dam at Hamrin, east of Baghdad, the Iraq News Agency reported today.

It said Mr. Izzat Al-Douri, Chairman of the Higher Agricultural Council, signed the contract last night with the unidentified Yugoslav company.

The dam is due to be completed in five years and is aimed at preventing the flooding of the Dili River endangering Baghdad and nearby Fallad. It will also help irrigate some one million dunams (250,000 acres) and generate electricity.

Japan, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and India were other active buyers.

But American companies had little recourse to the bond market, the figure only 4.8 per cent. This was attributed to the size of the bond market.

In the case of commodities, the dollar accounted for 80 per cent of issues, being shared by the Swiss franc.

20% Costain holding reverts to UAE figure

LONDON, Feb. 6 (R). — A major holding in one of Britain's biggest construction companies, Richard Costain Ltd., has been bought back by Arab interests — changing hands for the third time in just over a year — it was announced today.

The British trading conglomerate, Lonrho, said it sold the 20 per cent holding in Costain to Mohammed Al Fayed, a United Arab Emirates businessman, and his associates for 11 million sterling in cash.

Lonrho has extensive mining, trading and financial interests in the Arab World and throughout Africa. Its chief executive, Mr. Roland 'Tiny' Rowland, is one of the most flamboyant entrepreneurs in the London financial world.

Last April, Lonrho purchased the same Costain holding from Mr. Al Fayed in exchange for 5,500,000 ordinary shares in Lonrho and 375,000 sterling in cash.

Mr. Al Fayed, a Lonrho board member, originally acquired the Costain holding in December 1974 from the Slater-Walker group.

Bhutto lifts curbs on skilled emigrants

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 5 (R). — Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto today lifted restrictions imposed last month on highly skilled Pakistanis going abroad for better-paid jobs.

An official statement said Mr Bhutto had ordered that the presidential ordinance promulgating the curbs be withdrawn immediately following appeals from Pakistanis already working overseas.

The government three weeks ago moved to check the "brain drain," particularly to oil-rich Arab states, by drastically limiting emigration of different categories of professional and technical personnel.

It subsequently decreed that any highly skilled Pakistanis taking up employment abroad must pay 20 per cent of their earnings to the government.

Mr Bhutto, revoking the measures, appealed to the patriotism of the professional and technical classes urging them to ensure that Pakistan's manpower needs were met before seeking jobs abroad.

British Trade Mission to the Red Sea

A British trade delegation, including ten prominent representatives of British industrial and commercial firms, will be arriving in Amman on Feb. 9.

The members of the delegation are:



GORDON CHADWICK
Mission Leader
Managing Director
Barclays Bank International Ltd



RICHARD A. BARTON, M.I.E.C.
Managing Director
Bartoline Limited
Motor oils, paints



DOUGLAS A. R. SMITH, M.I.E.C.
Export Director
Cordis Paints (Stony) Ltd
Surface coating—marine and building industries



ARTHUR A. CHEADLE
Director
Burnett Atlanta (International) Ltd
Centrifugal pumps, generators, concrete mixers, dump trucks



HENRY C. E. STURT, M.I.E.C.
Export Director
John L. Sturt & Co. Ltd
Vegetable oils



JAMES NIVEN, M.I.E.C.
Managing Director
Gavinnes Limited
Hotel and home furnishing textiles—Arab design



CHARLES W. CHITTY
Sales Director
J. W. Rayner & Co. (Engineers) Ltd
Scaffolding and building equipment, steel and concrete



N. D. SIMPSON
Managing Director
P. & W. MacLellan Limited
Structural engineer, fabricated steel work for buildings, bridges, industrial plants



NORMAN WHITEHEAD
Sales Director
Quidens (Middle) Limited
Earth moving equipment, stone crushers, dump trucks



JEREMY SPINKS
Sales Manager
Loomveld Limited
Steel grating, diamond mesh flooring, ancillary steelwork

The delegation will leave Amman for Jeddah on Feb. 12.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed easier on balance Friday in quiet trading. At 1500 the F.T. Index was down 2.3 at 407.7.

The one half per cent base rate cut by leading banks and a similar reduction in the Bank of England minimum lending rate brought a recovery among long dated government bonds. They were down as much as 5/8 point initially. Shorts were mixed.

The market reaction to the new government 'tap' stock, treasury 12-1/2 pct 1993A, was largely neutral.

Equities were slightly easier on balance on end-account influences. Gold shares firmed in line with the bullion price. Dollar stocks eased and Australians were mixed.

Banks moved lower at the outset in reaction to the Lloyds Bank right issue. Lloyds bank closed about 3p off at 262-1/2 after a low of 258. Other banks eased between 6p and 10p.

Leading industrials eased between 1p and 2p. In mixed oils Shell was 4p down.

Thomson Organisation met renewed demand and closed 8p up. It announced North Sea financing plans recently.

● LONDON. — East ready-made men's lounge suits are to be sold by retail for only 4.80 pounds (\$9.60), the British Cloth Manufacturers' Federation claimed Thursday. It is the Ministry of Trade's reaction to what it describes as a scandalous exploitation of the British market. The Federation said that at least 60,000 suits were now being sold to Britain through intermediary of a Net firm.

● TOKYO. — Unemployment to 1,050,000 in Japan December, which was 1 per cent against previous cent, official figures show.

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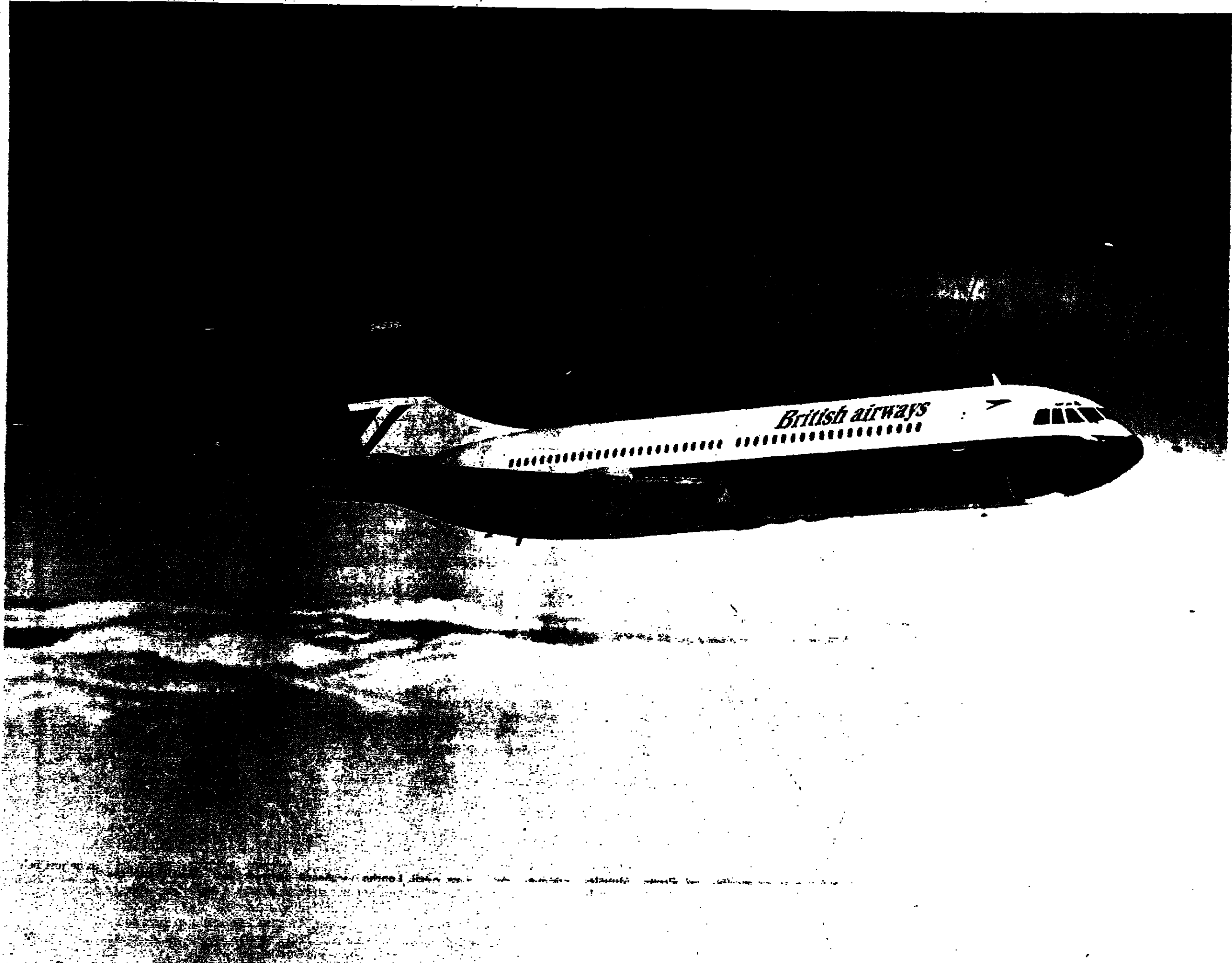
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U. S., Soviet athletes share spotlight in second day of Winter Olympics

INNSBRUCK, Feb. 6, (AFP). — The biathlon, the Winter Olympics' most eccentric sport, but surely the most demanding, provided the Russians with another two medals here today.

But the star of this third day was Sheila Young, a 25-year-old Detroit student, who picked up the gold medal in the women's 500m speedskating, just 24 hours after winning the 1,500 silver medal.

Racers in the biathlon must push their bodies to the threshold of fatigue over a 20kms cross country course, then take aim at four firing points along the trail.

World champion Alexander Tikhonov pushed the pace and led after half the race, but as exhaustion set in the Russian failed to hit the bull's eye on the last firing point, collecting an additional six minutes in

penalties.

This left the way open to 26-year-old Nikolai Kruglov from Gorki, who could hardly believe officials when told he had beaten his compatriot, Finland's Heikki Ikola took the silver after a remarkably smooth race ahead of the second Russian, Alexander Elizarov.

Miss Young, the first woman to break the 41 second barrier over 500 last month at Davos, Switzerland, surged to her first Olympic title in style.

An overcast sky kept the surface of the ice rink hard and fast, and the first five bettered the Olympic record of American Ann Henning who won the gold medal at Sapporo, Japan,

Bhutto shuffles Pakistani cabinet

RAWALPINDI, Feb. 5 (AFP). — Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto reshuffled his cabinet today for the fourth time since coming to power in December 1971.

He increased the number of ministries from 11 to 16 and included two new faces.

The premier retained the defence and foreign affairs portfolios for himself, keeping Aziz Ahmed as Minister of State in both ministries.

Observers considered the most significant appointments to be those of:

— General Tikka Khan as special assistant to Mr. Bhutto for national security. The general retires as army chief of staff on March 1.

— Mohammed Hanif Khan as Minister of Information and Broadcasting. He is a former deputy speaker of the national assembly from the North West Frontier Province.

— Nasir Rizvi as Minister of Housing and Urban Development. He is General Secretary of the Peoples Party governing in Punjab.

Franjeh-Damascus

((Continued from page 1)) ahead with the visit unless an accord had been successfully hammered out, observers said.

The day-long visit, during which he will confer with Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad, has been postponed several times, and last night's announcement that it was finally taking place was seen as a strong sign that a solution was in sight.

The agreement is expected to be announced after Mr. Franjeh leaves Damascus.

Details of what will inevitably be a complex peace formula are expected to include constitutional changes giving Moslems and Christians equal numbers of seats in parliament instead of the present five-to-six arrangement.

The cabinet is also expected to be expanded to include several prominent figures on the left and right who are not in the present six-man cabinet.

Almost certainly, the accord will include pledges underwritten by the Syrians that the Palestinians will abide by the existing agreements regulating their activities in Lebanon and will withdraw the Syrian-based Palestinian troops now policing Moslem areas of the country.

Smith warns

((Continued from page 1)) Rhodesians would be the target of an "intensive and insidious psychological war."

"We shall be urged by some people to heed the lessons of Mozambique and Angola and to surrender now in order to avoid chaos and strife such as that presently occurring in Angola," he said.

in 1972 in 43.33 secs.

Miss Young said afterwards she would hang up her skates this year after 16 years of competitive racing. She was world champion in 1973 and 1975 as well as women's world sprint cycling champion in 1973.

Cathy Priestner of Canada has produced some consistent results in European competitions this season, but her best performance this year had been bettered by five other women and she entered the race as an outsider. A silver medal will have more than satisfied her.

The Soviet Union's Tatiana Averina, who set three speed skating world records at the high altitude Medeo rink in Alma-Ata in Soviet Kazakhstan last March, again failed to live up to expectations.

It was her second bronze medal following yesterday's 1,500 m.

After today's events, the Russians had three gold and four bronze medals, followed by the United States with one gold and two silver.

The third run of the men's and women's single seat toboggan (luge) was dominated by the Germans. But as opposed to Sapporo, when the East Germans won everything, the West Germans were challenging strongly and Saturday's final run appeared unpredictable.

Bangladesh adopts ZPG

DACCA, Feb. 6 (AFP). — Bangladesh has accepted the principle of zero population growth, according to presidential adviser Mohammed Ibrahim.

Unchecked, the population of Bangladesh could pass the 200 million mark early next century.

Dr. Ibrahim said the government has labelled the population boom as the country's No. 1 problem and will soon launch a massive programme aimed at lowering the birth rate to a zero growth level.

Rabin's visit

((Continued from page 1)) According to the sources, his itinerary for Latin America had not yet been worked out, but he was certain to call at Mexico and Costa Rica as well as to chair a meeting of Israeli ambassadors in an unspecified South American capital.

Angola

((Continued from page 1)) that Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi had sent a message of greetings and felicitations to Angolan President Agostinho Neto.

In Cape Town, South African Foreign Minister Hilgard Muller today sent a second letter to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim urgently requesting aid for 11,000 Angolan refugees.

He said the situation was becoming extremely urgent for thousands of displaced people in the southern sector of Angola who had fled to four camps being maintained by the South African authorities just

NATO council

((Continued from page 1)) Britain following London's decision to send Royal Navy frigates back inside the 200-mile zone, Icelandic Foreign Minister Einar Augustsson said late Thursday tonight, the Danish news agency Ritzau reported.

Mr. Augustsson said he was giving his personal opinion, the agency said.



SPEEDY LADY. — Sheila Young, 25-year-old American speed skater from Detroit, Michigan, is shown during her performance Friday as she won the gold medal in the Innsbruck Winter Olympics women's 500-metre speed skating competition.

National strikes dramatise demands for major economic reforms in Italy

ROME, Feb. 6 (AFP). — Seven million Italian workers struck for four hours today to press demands for solutions to the economic crisis, as Premier-designate Aldo Moro continued efforts to form Italy's 38th cabinet in 33 years.

Tens of thousands of workers demonstrated in major cities throughout the country as Italy's main three trade unions broke a self-imposed "truce" since the start of the cabinet crisis a month ago so as "not to create additional tensions," in the words of one union leader.

The nationwide strike was called by the communist-dominated CGIL, the Christian Democrat CISL and the Social Democrat UIL unions, which all called for steps to create new jobs in order to bring down unemployment.

According to official figures, there are now 1,250,000 jobless in Italy.

Union leaders specifically urged politicians to solve the cabinet crisis, which they said was paralysing the economy and industrial negotiations.

Labour agreements in virtually all sectors come up for renewal this year.

But union leaders on the whole called for a moderate strategy by workers, including "self-restraint" on strikes.

And they also made it clear that they consider the new economic plan proposed by Mr. Moro this week as interesting.

However, in some major centres, demonstrators pelted union leaders with tomatoes, accusing the national leadership of the main three unions of being "too soft."

The commodity list is a central feature in an integrated commodities program which the developing countries had hoped to adopt at their Manila meeting as a major step towards protecting their primary products from severe price fluctuations.

Guatemala quake

((Continued from page 1)) kesman said the government had about 15 days' supply of food in storage but after that it would have to rely heavily on foreign aid.

Local medical teams were also being flown by helicopter to treat the injured in remote areas. But with only 10 such craft in the air force, progress was slow.

Mr. Rosene said: "The damage is in a band across the most populated part of the highlands. It will be a difficult disaster to cope with because it is a big zone and there are very great transport difficulties due to landslides."

Madrid cabinet starts work on details of reform plan

MADRID, Feb. 6, (R). — The Spanish cabinet today started work on details of the political reform programme announced by Prime Minister Carlos Arias Navarro last week.

The meeting was the cabinet's first since then.

Nixons to visit China this month

PEKING, Feb. 6, (R). — China tonight announced that former President Richard Nixon will visit Peking this month to mark the fourth anniversary of his historic 1972 trip here.

The surprise announcement was made by the official New China News Agency (NCNA).

It had been generally assumed Mr Nixon would wait until after next November's U.S. presidential elections before taking up Chairman Mao Tse-tung's personal invitation to pay a return visit to China.

The United States Liaison Office here said it had been given no advance word of the trip. "It's the first we have heard," a spokesman told Reuters.

It showed that despite the Watergate scandals, China retained great respect for Mr Nixon's role in restoring Sino-U.S. relations.

Mr Nixon will arrive here on February 21—exactly four years after he made his historic trip to China as U.S. President.

The announcement did not reveal how long Mr and Mrs Nixon would stay but said their trip was to recognise that the 1972 visit had played a significant part in improving Sino-U.S. relations.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Slide lecture by Mr. Steve Emmel of the American Centre in Cairo on the "Nag Hammadi Codices," 4th century documents similar to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

6:00 p.m., American Centre.

et's first since then. The ramme's vagueness and adherence to the basic the late General Franco dismayed the opposi-

But informed sources the government had a bill easing restrictions on political meetings and demonstrations.

Under the bill, to be ted to the Cortes (parliament) after study by the cabinet political meetings be allowed and would only 72 hours notice to authorities.

Demonstrations and rallies would require 14 notice but private meetings more than 19 people would no longer need police permission, the sources said.

They added that the government reserved the right meetings held for "illicit" poses and also to break demonstrations that threatened to disturb public order.

Under laws dating from the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War all political meetings are banned.

The government's attitude on freedom of expression was put to a test last when the outlawed Communist Party turned a concert by controversial singer Raimon into a militant waving and calling for political change.

Party leaders, until in prison, attended the concert—the first he had allowed to hold in Madrid a campus recital he gave years ago sparked riots.

Riot police stood by the concert hall but did not interfere. Raimon's concert said today, however, he received a police order to cancel concerts planned for Sunday and Monday.

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